

REMARKS

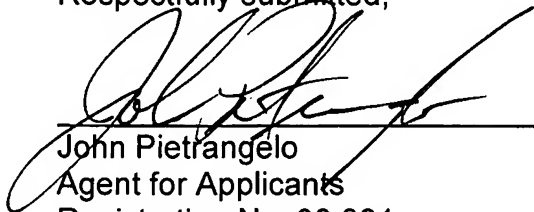
No amendments have been made to the claims pending in this application.
Claims 21-40 remain pending in this application.

In the above-referenced Notice, the Patent Office states that the prior amendment filed on January 31, 2005 (mailed January 28, 2005) was non-compliant because "Each claim was not provided with the proper status identifier..." As indicated in the Action, the proper identifier for those claims in question should be "previously presented." The Applicant has updated the claim identifiers accordingly. The Applicant believes that the above Listing of Claims addresses this non-compliance. The Applicant requests that these claims and the remarks that appear in the Response of December 23, 2004 be fully considered on their merits.

The Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits of the application is requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, the Applicant's undersigned Agent invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,


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